3rd August 1955]

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" My question is only a request to the Government to restore the tank and nothing else. I am not asking for increasing the ayacut of the tank. I want the Government to give instructions to the Collector to take steps to restore the tank early."

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Yes, Sir, it can be done only by removing the silt and steps will be taken for that, if feasible."

Sevalapuri reservoir, Gingee taluk.

* 1887 *Q*.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the present stage of the progress of the investigation made for constructing a reservoir in Sankaraparani river at Sevalapuri village, Gingee taluk, South Arcot district; and

(*b*) the present stage of the proposal to include it in the Second Five-year Plan?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Gaugings of the river flows is being continued. Gaugings will be taken this year also before a decision as regards the availability of supply is arrived at.

" (*b*) As the scheme is not yet fully investigated and its feasibility determined, it is not yet ripe for consideration for inclusion in the Second Five-Year Plan."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" When Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar was the Chief Minister of this State, he did his best to investigate this scheme of constructing a reservoir in Sankaraparani river at Sevalapuri village. But this scheme is still kept pending. It has been brought to the notice of the Collector and the Executive Engineer also during the Half-Yearly Irrigation Conferences. In spite of that, the Collector has not taken steps in the matter. May I therefore request the Hon. Minister to direct the Executive Engineer to take up the investigation of this scheme immediately? Gingee and Tindivanam are dry taluks in South Arcot district and therefore I am drawing the attention of the Government to this matter."

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The Chief Engineer has reported that no definite gaugings could be had from 1952 owing to drought conditions. So, it is only after 1952, gaugings could be taken. Readings will have to be taken next year, i.e., 1956 also before a definite decision can be taken as to the feasibility of the scheme. Unless we can get the figures relating to the workability of the scheme, we cannot proceed with it. We have to get the figures before we sanction the scheme."